SALISBURY STATE UNIVERSITY

Softball

1993

1993 In Review

Despite a frustrating start that included a seemingly losing battle against the "Storm of '93," the Salisbury State softball team banged out another winning campaign, finishing 15-11 and claiming a third straight Eastern States Athletic Conference (ESAC) championship.

Weather difficulties forced the Sea Gulls to delay their season opening game for over three weeks, finally beginning the campaign on April 1. SSU promptly swept Wesley 14-0 and 10-0 to celebrate the start of the season. A six-game losing skid followed, but the Gulls reversed that trend by winning eight of their next 10 games.

With the ESAC in its final year, the Gulls had a chance to end their conference affiliation with an unprecedented third straight crown. Following a sweep of Allentown, Salisbury split a doubleheader against Shenandoah, leaving both teams at 3-1 in league play. Due to scheduling conflicts which would not allow for a playoff showdown, SSU and Shenandoah were declared co-champions. The championship was Salisbury's third straight and fourth in five years.

SSU closed the season by winning five of its last six contests, with impressive games against a couple of its chief regional rivals. In back-to-back days, the Gulls swept a doubleheader at Virginia Wesleyan, then forced a split with Mary Washington by staging a two-out rally in the final at-bat of the season.

A number of noteworthy individual efforts helped propel the Gulls to their third straight winning season and eighth winning campaign in the last nine years. **Sandy Lawless**, a four-year letterwinner, was named the team's MVP after batting .382 for the year and keying the infield defense from her shortstop position.

Freshman catcher **Jen Bowman** made an immediate impact, finishing as the team's top hitter at .400 and RBI leader with 20. Junior **Dianne Racine** was once again a stabilizing force, batting .329 as the starting left fielder and also hurling complete-game wins in her two pitching starts.

And senior right-hander **Sonja Akers** closed out her career as one of SSU's all-time pitching greats with an 8-5 record and 2.10 ERA. She notched complete games in all 12 of her starts, and registered an impressive 37 to 16 strikeout-walk ratio. Akers finished her career with a 35-23 record, accounting for 60 percent of the team's 58 wins during her four years.

ON THE COVER The three senior members of the 1993 softball team. Pictured, left to right, are: third baseman Allison Tompkins, pitcher Sonja Akers and shortstop Sandy Lawless.

1993 Game-by-Game Results

Overall Record: 15-11 Home: 6-5 Away: 9-6

Date	Opponent	Result	Score	Record	Pitcher	Notes
4/1 %	WESLEY	W	14-0	1-0	Akers (1-0)	5 innings; SSU 9-run 1st
4/1 %	WESLEY	W	10-0	2-0	Hesson (1-0)	5 innings; SSU 10-run 1st
4/3	WILMINGTON	L	11-1	2-1	Akers (1-1)	6 innings
4/3	WILMINGTON	L	12-1	2-2	Hesson (1-1)	6 innings
4/5	C.W. POST	L	4-1	2-3	Akers (1-2)	Tompkins RBI
4/5	C.W. POST	L	11-4	2-4	Hesson (1-2)	Racine 2 RBIs
4/13	Chris. Newport	L	7-0	2-5	Hesson (1-3)	SSU 4 singles
4/13	Chris. Newport	L	12-1	2-6	Heath (0-1)	Heath triple, run scored
4/14	DELAWARE TECH	W	10-0	3-6	Akers (2-2)	Heath 3-4, 2B & 3 runs
4/17	Eastern Mennonite	W	13-3	4-6	Akers (3-2)	Lawless 2B, 3 RBIs
4/17	Eastern Mennonite	L	8-7	4-7	Akers (3-3)	Lawless 1B & 3B, 4 RBIs
4/20	Stockton State	W	8-1	5-7	Akers (4-3)	Racine 4-5, 3 runs
4/20	Stockton State	W	8-0	6-7	Hesson (2-3)	Bowman 3-4, 2B
4/24	ALLENTOWN	W	7-0	7-7	Akers (5-3)	Akers 2B, 2 RBIs
4/24	ALLENTOWN	W	11-1	8-7	Hesson (3-3)	Cianelli 2B, 2 RBIs
4/25	Shenandoah	L	7-6	8-8	Akers (5-4)	Akers 3B, 3 RBIs
4/25	Shenandoah	W	12-2	9-8	Racine (1-0)	Lawless 2 doubles
4/27	Washington	W	3-1	10-8	Akers (6-4)	Akers 5-hitter, 7 Ks
4/30	William Paterson	L	5-3	10-9	Akers (6-5)	Bowman 2-4, RBI
4/30	William Paterson	L	13-0	10-10	Hesson (3-4)	5 innings
5/1	Cabrini	W	11-5	11-10	Akers (7-5)	Warren, Bowman, Akers 2 hits
5/1	Cabrini	W	6-4	12-10	Hesson (4-4)	Heath 3-4, 5 RBIs
5/2	Virginia Wesleyan	W	3-1	13-10	Racine (2-0)	Warren 2-2, 1 run
5/2	Virginia Wesleyan	W	3-1	14-10	Hesson (5-4)	Warren 2B, 2 RBIs
5/3	MARY WASHINGTON	L	3-1	14-11	Hesson (5-5)	8 innings
5/3	MARY WASHINGTON	W	3-2	15-11	Akers (8-5)	SSU 2 runs in 7th to win

Home games in CAPS % Played at County Complex

Kneeling (left to right): Sandie Warren, Michelle Gray, Sandy Lawless, Jen Toole, Allison Tompkins, Kelly Carey, Nora Penn and Angela Stencel. Standing (left to right): Assistant Coach Dr. Tom Stitcher, Heather McIntosh, Melissa Manz, Tara Luckanish, Sonja Akers, Shannon Cianelli, Tamiko Bryant, Lauren Hesson, Jen Bowman and Head Coach Susan Muller.

1993 Women's Softball Roster

No.	Name	Pos	Year	Hometown	High School
1	Sandie Warren	1B	Jr	Greenbelt, MD	Eleanor Roosevelt
2	Dianne Racine	LF	Jr	Elkton, MD	Elkton
3	Angela Stencel	RF	So	Pt. Pleasant, NJ	Pt. Boro
4	Shannon Cianelli	CF	Jr	Hagerstown, MD	Smithsburg
5	Laura Heath	LF	So	Salisbury, MD	Parkside
6	Melissa Manz	1B	Fr	Saylorsburg, PA	Pleasant Valley
7	Sonja Akers	P	Sr	Hagerstown, MD	Smithsburg
8	Jen Bowman	C	Fr	Greensboro, MD	North Caroline
9	Taralyn Luckanish	OF	Jr	Elkton, MD	Elkton
10	Sandy Lawless	SS	Sr	Owings, MD	Northern
11	Kelly Carey	2B	Fr	Denton, MD	North Caroline
12	Nora Penn	2B	Fr	Owings, MD	Northern
13	Heather McIntosh	OF	So	Hagerstown, MD	South Hagerstown
14	Michelle Gray	2B	So	Woodsboro, MD	St. John's Prospect Hall
15	Lauren Hesson	P	Jr	Easton, MD	Easton
16	Michelle Boulay	C	Fr	Fulton, MD	St. Vincent Pallotti
17	Allison Tompkins	3B	Sr	Boonville, NY	Adirondeck
18	Jennifer Toole	3B	Fr	Lexington Park, MD	Great Mills

Head Coach: Susan Muller, 2nd year
Assistant: Dr. Tom Stitcher

1993 Final Statistics (15-11 Record)

Hitting	AB	R	H	RBI	BB	2B	3B	HR	AVG
Jen Bowman	80	15	32	20	5	4	2	0	.400
Sandy Lawless	68	11	26	13	6	3	3	0	.382
Sandie Warren	75	17	27	10	4	3	0	0	.360
Sonja Akers	34	8	12	7	4	2	1	0	.353
Dianne Racine	76	22	25	7	15	4	3	0	.329
Laura Heath	53	18	17	10	6	2	2	1	.321
Kelly Carey	60	14	18	7	4	4	1	0	.300
Allison Tompkins	60	12	17	4	11	0	0	0	.283
Shannon Cianelli	83	18	19	6	6	2	0	0	.229
Angela Stencel	45	6	8	4	4	0	0	0	.177
Heather McIntosh	20	3	3	1	0	0	0	0	.150
Jennifer Toole	17	4	2	3	3	2	0	0	.118
Lauren Hesson	19	2	2	3	3	0	0	0	.105
Nora Penn	9	2	0	0	1	0	0	0	.000
Michelle Gray	8	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	.000
Melissa Munz	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	.000
TOTALS	710	153	208	95	73	26	12	1	.293

Pitching	IP	H	R	ER	BB	K	G	GS	CG	W	L	ERA
Sonja Akers	83⅓	83	41	25	16	37	13	12	12	8	5	2.10
Lauren Hesson	67	88	64	39	34	11	11	11	10	5	5	4.07
Dianne Racine	18	14	7	0	8	11	3	2	2	2	0	0.00
Laura Heath	1.0	6	8	8	1	0	1	1	0	0	1	56.0

Sea Gull Honor Roll

MVPs

1980 Robin Tyler
1981 Sissy Natoli
1982 Carolyn Huston/
Pam Gonce
1983 Cindy Zile
1984 Donna Headlee
1985 Terri Timmons
1986 Dawn Taylor
1987 Jodi Yingling
1988 Tina DeJaco/
Jodi Yingling
1989 Terri Sharpless
1990 Kristy Keil
1991 Saundra Miller
Sharrey Hammond
1992 Dianne Racine
1993 Sandy Lawless

Most Improved

1987 Laura Fisher
1988 Diane Bickford
1989 Kristy Keil
1990 Saundra Miller
1991 Yvette Hess
1992 Heather McIntosh
1993 Laura Heath

Coaches Award

(recognizing academic excellence)
1987 Kristy Keil
1988 Debbie Scott
1989 Karen Sipple
1990 Jane Cleveland
1991 Saundra Miller
1992 Sandy Lawless
1993 Sonja Akers

Morrison Award

(for dedication to the game)
1989 Terri Sharpless/
Karen Sipple
1990 Kristy Keil
1991 Amy Geppi
1992 Monica Diggs
1993 (not awarded)

1993 ESAC All-Conference Team

Sonja Akers	**Salisbury State**
Kim Barden	Shenandoah
Sabrina Bernardi	Allentown
Jen Bowman	**Salisbury State**
Shirley Gray	Shenandoah
Kelly Hoffman	Allentown
Sandy Lawless	**Salisbury State**
Erin Maloney	Shenandoah
Alisha Miller	Shenandoah
Dianne Racine	**Salisbury State**
Kim Spichiger	Allentown
Allison Tompkins	**Salisbury State**

Coach of the Year
Sue Muller — **Salisbury State**

SSU Quick Facts

Location	Salisbury, MD 21801
Founded	1925
Enrollment	5,719
President	Dr. Thomas E. Bellavance
Switchboard	(410) 543-6000
Nickname	Sea Gulls
Colors	Maroon, Gold
Affiliation	NCAA Division III
Conference	Capital Athletic
Athletic Director	Dr. Michael Vienna
Athletic Dept. Phone	(410) 543-6340
Head Coach	TBA
Coach's Phone	(410) 543-6340
Sports Info. Director	G. Paul Ohanian
Sports Info. Phone	(410) 543-6016

Salisbury State University

A Reputation for Excellence

"Best Buy" in Public Education. "Smiles abound as the . . . school's endowment and reputation soar," said *The Baltimore Sun* in a front page story. *Money* magazine ranked SSU a national "best buy" in public education.

Applications triple. For 15 straight years the number of applications here has increased, countering national trends. This fall the campus received over 4,000 applications for 650 openings.

SATs up nearly 200 points. In the same time period, SAT scores rose to among the highest in Maryland's public university system. The average 1993 freshman at SSU has well over 1000 on the SATs and a better than B average in high school.

$45 million investment in buildings and grounds. Splendid new architecture and a beautifully landscaped campus in the heart of Maryland's Eastern Shore have made us one of the Mid-Atlantic's most attractive universities.

Highest endowed four-year public comprehensive university in Maryland. SSU's $10 million plus endowment means more scholarships, student travel and research funds, and more visiting scholars and artists' programs. The University has been listed in an exclusive group of 300 schools with the largest endowments for their size.